a2

5 (amended). The method as recited in claim 4 wherein said metal-coated material is applied on the surface of or amidst said insulation materials.

12 (amended). The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said metal-coated material reflects electromagnetic radiation.

a3

13 (amended). The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said metal-coated material reduces electrostatic charges.

14 (amended). The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said metal-coated material has antimicrobial properties.

Please add the following claim:

a4

15. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said metal-coated material is included as multiple layers.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and reversal of the rejections expressed in the Office Action of January 29, 2002, is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks and the application as amended. The present invention relates to a method for enhancing insulation materials without increasing the weight, thickness or density of the materials, which includes adding to the materials an amount, effective for the purpose of enhancing the insulation, of a metal-coated staple fiber, filament fiber or fabric.

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The claims have been clarified to overcome this rejection. As stated in the specification, in the construction of the present invention, metal-coated fibers are knit, woven or non-woven into a fabric with other yarns (e.g., polyester, polypropylene, nylon, cotton, acrylics, etc.), with the resulting fabric being included as a single layer or multiple layers on the surface of and/or in the middle of traditional non-woven or extruded insulation materials.